



BAKER DRIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School District No. 43 (Coquitlam)

885 Baker Drive, Coquitlam, BC V3J 6W9 • Phone (604) 461-5323 • Fax: (604) 604-937-8003



December 1, 2020



THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER INCLUDES:

- Principal's Ponderings
- Counsellor's Corner
- Share Food Drive
- Holiday Virtual Performance
- Kindergarten Registration/ Montessori Info.
- Secretary Scribble
- PAC News
- Winter Weather
- [Link to School Calendar on Website](#)



PRINCIPAL'S PONDERINGS AND PANDEMIC PROTOCOLS

Baker Bears have participated in many exciting learning experiences within the school and connected to our extended community this past month. All classes have participated in Indigenous curriculum opportunities within their classrooms. We are excited to welcome Ms. McKay, SD43 Indigenous Cultural Worker, to our Baker Elementary Staff. As you were able to witness in our short Remembrance Day video, we passed our wreaths to the local legion on November 11th. On November 30th we delivered over 100 post-cards, notes and art pieces to the Coquitlam Public Library for sharing with Seniors. Our clothing drive in October with the Charles Best Secondary Leadership class has now led to a partnership supporting families in the Tri-Cities area over the holiday. And of course, we will be launching our Holiday Hamper Donations on behalf of SHARE in a unique COVID-safe format – STAY TUNED!



It is truly energizing to see our learners engaging in showing their curiosity, positivity, excitement and laughter as they learn– lots and lots of giggling and laughing every day. Thank you for the gratitude regularly shown for our teachers and educational assistants as they lead our learners in finding interesting and creative approaches to talking and showing what they know and can do. We hope you are enjoying hearing about our weekly "Mystery Reader" as we announce daily clues and the children work to guess who, on staff, will be reading to them this week. Please monitor our website, email and twitter (@bakerdrivesd43) for classroom and virtual opportunities we share with you.

In the weeks leading up to the holiday there are many exciting, new, learning and community experiences. We are sad though, not to be experiencing our traditional community pre-holiday events like the Children's Market, Holiday Concert and all the classroom activities that would have involved parents and other caregivers being with us "in-person." We hope that the Communicating Learning Parent/Teacher Conferences last week, prior to report cards going home, gives insight into your child's classroom experiences.

Pandemic Protocols: *It is this time of year when there are many contributions from outside the school to our classroom festivities. Just for this year - families are being asked NOT to send any items to school for sharing with classmates – including greeting cards. Please consider sending virtual holiday cards via the classroom email list or donating to a local charity in the name of Baker Drive Elementary or Ms. X's Class.*

Upcoming events:

- Mystery Reader Unveilings Each Thursday
- Share Food Bank Collection & Holiday Food Hampers Dec. 7th-16th
- Communicating Student Learning Reports Go Home - December 10th
- Virtual Holiday Performance – Week of December 14th
- The Baker Drive Holiday Episode – coming December 17th/18th

Good-byes:

Last week we said good-bye to our two student teachers, Ms. Inoda and Ms. Chan. Best of luck in your careers. Division 1 and 2 will miss you but we hope to see you back at Baker Drive as TTOC's.

Mid-November Ms. Blaxland left us for her maternity leave and has had a beautiful baby boy. Congratulations!



Communicating Learning (CSL) documents (formerly known as **Report Cards**)

Over the past couple of years, the District has worked closely with the BC Ministry of Education, teachers and parents to design report cards that focus on a continuum of learning against a widely held standard. The reports remain like last year with the scale reporting growth toward the provincial standard. The scale remains the same as the scale we used last year: Emerging; Developing; Proficient; and Extending.

New Parking Regulations



Thank you to the City of Coquitlam for posting proper signage for pick-up and drop-off and to all the parents and caregivers for your attention to the traffic and parking regulations in our school zone.

As always, never hesitate to email (jreid@sd43.bc.ca) or call the school (604-561-5323) if you have any questions or just want to chat.

Email or call any time, Ms. Reid

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

Visit the SD43 Mental Health Resources and Information page to view the video link for an "Understanding Worry" workshop that was recorded earlier this year, along with a list of local mental health resources for parents and families. [Mental Health Resources and Information](#)



Please don't hesitate to contact Ms. Townsend btownsend@sd43.bc.ca if you would like to discuss anything to do with your child's mental wellness.

SHARE HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE – DONATE ON SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Given the extraordinary times, Baker Drive will be supporting Tri-Cities families by collecting cash and gift cards to grocery stores at school OR through no-touch online donations in support of SHARE's Christmas Food and Toy Drive. Log into your [School Cash Online Account](#). Notice coming home with all the details. – Ms. Sabourin



NUTCRACKER BALLET – VIRTUAL VIEWING

This year our Baker Bears will be presenting a virtual Baker Drive rendition of the Nutcracker ballet. Students have been hard at work creating and practicing their own unique interpretations of this holiday classic, and we are looking forward to sharing with you. The video will "drop" (sorry) sometime during the last week of school before the winter break for a community viewing across the school and for you as well – to view with us or share the link and watch together with family and friends. – Mr. Rojas

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION & CROSS CATCHMENT REGISTRATION

Baker Drive is an amazing school. Registration for kindergarten students who LIVE in our catchment is January 27-February 4th, 2021. Students who wish to participate in the Montessori Program or other Programs of Choice MUST apply (EVEN if you have siblings already in Montessori and/or LIVE in our area) between January 7th and 13th 2021. If you live outside our catchment boundaries and currently do not attend Baker Drive you MUST apply between February 5th and 10th, 2021 for our Neighbourhood Program AND still apply to YOUR neighbourhood/catchment school. Detailed registration information and ALL DEADLINES can be found here. [2021/2022 Registration Information](#).

An email was sent out last week to all current Montessori families who have siblings younger than Kindergarten. Reminder: If you wish your younger child to be enrolled in Montessori YOU MUST follow the application process and submit by the deadline.

SECRETARY SCRIBBLE "TO DO'S" AND REMINDERS FOR PARENTS

- **Student Absences** – Thank you for letting Ms. Ploss know when your child will be away from school by completing an [Online Absence Form](#). If your child will need to be picked up early, you can complete an [Online Absence Form](#) or call the school at 604-461-5323. Please don't enter the school; opt to wait out front and call Ms. Ploss who will get your child.
- **Telephone / Address changes** – Please be sure to advise us of any changes to keep your contact information up to date.
- **Check your spam/ junk mailbox** - make sure you are receiving all emails from our secretary; our principal – Jill Reid; and our PAC. We send out messages using our provincial student information system with large contact lists. These messages may be routed to your spam or junk folder by your email provider.



PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) NEWS

THE BAKER DRIVE ELEMENTARY PAC WEBSITE IS AMAZING!! Thank you to Gill Tempest for donating her incredible PR and Communications background to our community. To have such a fantastic public face for our parent community is such a positive reflection of our school. The Baker Bear ONLINE STORE is now open! Thank-you to all the parents who have signed up online for the new [Baker Drive PAC Website](#).

Next PAC meeting will be held Virtually on January 9, 2020

WINTER WEATHER AHEAD!

Visit our website any time you have questions about snowy conditions at Baker Drive.

District SD43 information:

- Schools are **not** routinely closed due to snow or other weather conditions.
- All schools in the Coquitlam School District will remain OPEN, if at all possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.
- On occasion, full or partial district closures are required.
- Any district-wide or partial closure will be decided by 6:30 a.m. at the latest and will be announced via **School District 43: website www.sd43.bc.ca**. It may also be announced on CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio, however, your most up to date and accurate information will be on the school district website.
- While the District tries to make the best decision with the information available, the weather changes quickly and therefore decisions to stay at home during challenging weather conditions should be made by each family.
- We encourage families to continuously check the School District 43 website for updates and changes: **www.sd43.bc.ca**
- Learn more about SD43's process for emergency and inclement weather status updates at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/Pages/EmergencyInformation.aspx>

[Link to School Calendar](#)